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LETTER DATED 18 APRIL 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GREECE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On 14 April 1995, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, Greece, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine adopted in Athens a joint statement, the text of which is enclosed herewith, by which they agreed that our Governments would undertake a collective démarche to Your Excellency and the Security Council addressing the issue of the negative impact of the sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), both on the affected countries and on the region as a whole. This initiative is open to other countries which may wish to join it.

The Ministers authorized Greece to inform Your Excellency and the members of the Security Council of the said initiative. I would therefore kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Christos G. ZACHARAKIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Joint statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, Greece, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine, adopted at Athens on 14 April 1995

The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and its serious repercussions are a cause of grave concern.

By virtue of the geographical situation of our countries, the sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) have caused significant direct and indirect losses to our economies. The burden of the sanctions exceeds the reasonable point of economic and social tolerance.

The affected countries have agreed to undertake a collective démarche to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the United Nations Security Council addressing the issue of the special economic problems as a result of the sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). This initiative is open to other countries which may wish to join it.

Even more, the implementation of the sanctions could have a considerable long-term negative impact on the overall political, economic, security and social situation in the affected third countries and the region as a whole.

The affected countries express their support to the efforts of the international community and especially of the Contact Group for achieving a peaceful, just and lasting political solution to the crisis in parallel with the suspension and lifting of the sanctions.